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2001-2010: Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Africa

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2001-2010: Decade to Roll Back Malaria

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/135 of 19 December 1994 and 50/128 of 20 December 1995 concerning the struggle against malaria in the developing countries, particularly in Africa,

Bearing in mind the relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council relating to the struggle against malaria and diarrhoeal diseases, in particular its resolution 1998/36 of 30 July 1998,

Acknowledging the importance for countries where malaria is endemic of adopting a modern strategy to combat this most deadly of all tropical diseases, which annually causes approximately one million deaths in Africa, where nine out of every ten cases of malaria occur,

Welcoming the declarations and decisions on health issues adopted by the Organization of African Unity, in particular the Declaration and Plan of Action on the "Roll Back Malaria" initiative adopted at the Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, held in Abuja on 24 and 25 July 2000, as well as decision AHG/Dec.155 (XXXVI) concerning the implementation of that Declaration and Plan of Action, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, at its thirty-sixth ordinary session, held in Lomé from 10 to 12 July 2000,[1]

Recognizing that malaria-related deaths throughout the world could be eliminated if appropriate health services were made available where the disease is endemic,

[1] See A/55/286, annex II.

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Emphasizing that the international community has an essential role to play in strengthening the support and assistance provided to developing countries, particularly African countries, in their efforts to reduce the incidence of malaria and mitigate its negative effects,

Emphasizing also the importance of implementing the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[2] and welcoming, in this connection, the commitments of Member States to respond to the specific needs of Africa,

1. *Proclaims* the period 2001-2010 the Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Africa;

2. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the continuing efforts of African countries to combat malaria through the formulation of plans and strategies at the national, regional and continental levels, despite their meagre financial, technical and human resources;

3. *Stresses* that the proclamation of an international decade to combat malaria in Africa would stimulate the efforts of the international community and the African countries to roll back malaria in Africa, where the incidence of the disease and of malaria-related deaths are highest;

4. *Appeals* to the international community, United Nations bodies, international and regional organizations and non-governmental organizations to allocate substantial new and additional resources for African countries with a view to enabling them to implement fully the Plan of Action adopted in Abuja for the "Roll Back Malaria" initiative;

5. *Commends* the World Health Organization for its ongoing measures to combat malaria, particularly in Africa, and urges it to provide the necessary assistance to African States in order to meet their objectives;

6. *Calls* for joint comprehensive efforts between Africa and the international community to ensure that by the year 2005, the following targets are achieved:

(i) At least 60 per cent of those at risk of malaria, particularly pregnant women and children under five years of age, have access to insecticide-treated mosquito nets;

(ii) Malaria is prevented, during pregnancy, through access to preventive intermittent treatment or chemoprophylaxis;

(iii) At least 60 per cent of those suffering from malaria have prompt access to effective treatment within 24 hours of the onset of symptoms;

7. *Reiterates* the need to ensure that measures to reduce malaria transmission risks, including environmental management, are included in development planning and activities;

[2] Resolution 55/2.

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General, acting in close collaboration with the Director-General of the World Health Organization, African States, the Organization of African Unity and African regional organizations, to conduct in 2005 an evaluation of the measures taken and progress made towards the achievement of the mid-term targets as well as the overall goals of the Decade and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.